



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 130

January Session, 2003

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1027

Senate, April 1, 2003

The Committee on Public Safety reported through SEN. DAILY of the 33rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING CHARITABLE BINGO AND SEALED TICKET SALES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (i) of section 7-169 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2003*):

4 (i) Prizes offered for the winning of bingo games may consist of
5 cash, merchandise, tickets for any lottery conducted under chapter 226,
6 the value of which shall be the purchase price printed on such tickets,
7 or other personal property. No permittee may offer a prize which
8 exceeds fifty dollars in value, except that (1) a permittee may offer a
9 prize or prizes on any one day of not less than fifty-one dollars nor
10 more than two hundred dollars in value provided the total value of
11 such prizes on any one day does not exceed [four] six hundred dollars,
12 (2) a permittee may offer one or two winner-take-all games or series of
13 games played on any day on which the permittee is allowed to

14 conduct bingo provided ninety per cent of all receipts from the sale of
15 bingo cards for said winner-take-all game or series of games shall be
16 awarded as prizes and provided each prize awarded does not exceed
17 five hundred dollars in value, (3) the holder of a Class A permit may
18 offer [an] two additional [prize] prizes on a weekly basis not to exceed
19 one hundred twenty-five dollars each as a special grand prize and in
20 the event such a special grand prize is not won, the money reserved for
21 such prize [may] shall be added to the money reserved for the next
22 week's special grand prize, provided no such special grand prize may
23 accumulate for more than sixteen weeks or exceed a total of two
24 thousand dollars, and (4) a permittee may award door prizes the
25 aggregate value of which shall not exceed two hundred dollars in
26 value. When more than one player wins on the call of the same
27 number, the designated prize shall be divided equally to the next
28 nearest dollar. If a permittee elects, no winner may receive a prize
29 which amounts to less than ten per cent of the announced prize and in
30 such case the total of such multiple prizes may exceed the statutory
31 limit of such game.

32 Sec. 2. Subsection (c) of section 7-169h of the general statutes, as
33 amended by section 3 of public act 03-1 of the January 6 special
34 session, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
35 (*Effective October 1, 2003*):

36 (c) (1) On and after October 1, 1987, the division may issue a permit
37 to sell sealed tickets to any organization or group specified in
38 subsection (d) of section 7-169 which holds a bingo permit issued in
39 accordance with the provisions of section 7-169. Such permit shall be
40 renewed annually.

41 (2) The division may issue a permit to sell sealed tickets to any
42 organization or group specified in subsection (d) of section 7-169
43 which holds a club permit or nonprofit club permit under the
44 provisions of chapter 545. Such permit shall be renewed annually.

45 (3) The division may issue a permit to sell sealed tickets to any
46 organization or group specified in section 7-172 which holds a permit

47 to operate a bazaar, issued in accordance with the provisions of
48 sections 7-170 to 7-186, inclusive.

49 (4) The division may issue a permit to sell sealed tickets to any
50 charitable, civic, educational, fraternal, veterans' or religious
51 organization, volunteer fire department or grange authorizing such
52 organization to sell sealed tickets in conjunction with any social
53 function or event sponsored or conducted by such organization. Any
54 such organization shall have been organized for not less than two
55 years prior to the date of its application for such permit. Such permit
56 shall be renewed annually.

57 Sec. 3. Subsections (e) and (f) of section 7-169h of the general
58 statutes, as amended by section 3 of public act 03-1 of the January 6
59 special session, are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
60 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2003*):

61 (e) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b) of section 53-
62 278b and subsection (d) of section 53-278c, sealed tickets may be sold,
63 offered for sale, displayed or open to public view only (1) during the
64 course of a bingo game conducted in accordance with the provisions of
65 section 7-169 and only at the location at which such bingo game is
66 conducted, (2) on the premises of any such organization or group
67 specified in subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of this section, [or] (3)
68 during the conduct of a bazaar under the provisions of sections 7-170
69 to 7-186, inclusive, or (4) in conjunction with any social function or
70 event sponsored or conducted by any such organization specified in
71 subdivision (4) of subsection (c) of this section, as amended by this act.
72 Permittees may utilize a mechanical or electronic ticket dispensing
73 machine approved by the division to sell sealed tickets. Sealed tickets
74 shall not be sold to any person less than eighteen years of age. All
75 proceeds from the sale of tickets shall be used for a charitable purpose,
76 as defined in section 21a-190a.

77 (f) The fee for a permit to sell sealed tickets (1) issued to an
78 organization authorized to conduct bingo under a "Class A" or "Class
79 C" permit or to an organization specified in subdivision (4) of

80 subsection (c) of this section, as amended by this act, in conjunction
81 with any social function or event sponsored or conducted by such
82 organization shall be fifty dollars, (2) issued to an organization which
83 holds a club permit or nonprofit club permit under the provisions of
84 chapter 545 shall be seventy-five dollars, and (3) issued to an
85 organization authorized to conduct bingo under a "Class B" permit or
86 an organization which holds a permit to operate a bazaar shall be five
87 dollars per day.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2003</i>
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2003</i>

PS *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:**

Agency Affected	Fund-Type	FY 04 \$	FY 05 \$
Spec. Revenue, Div. of	GF - Revenue Gain	70,000	185,000
Spec. Revenue, Div. of	GF - Cost	60,000	90,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill is anticipated to result in a General Fund revenue gain from permits and fees associated with the new sealed ticket permit of approximately \$70,000 in FY 04 and \$185,000 in succeeding fiscal years.

The Division of Special revenue is expected to incur costs of approximately \$60,000 to \$90,000 per year for the purchase of additional sealed ticket games.

OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 1027

AN ACT CONCERNING CHARITABLE BINGO AND SEALED TICKET SALES**SUMMARY:**

This bill:

1. increases, from \$400 to \$600, the total value of all the \$51 to \$200 prizes that a bingo permittee may award on any day;
2. allows a class A bingo permittee to award two special weekly grand prizes of up to \$125 each, instead of one, and makes the law conform to practice by requiring, instead of allowing, the special grand prize money to accumulate for up to 16 weeks or \$2,000 if there are no winners;
3. creates a new type of annual permit, costing \$50, that allows the sale of sealed tickets by qualified organizations at social functions or events; and
4. sets a \$50 fee for sealed ticket permits issued to a class C bingo permittee.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2003

BINGO PERMITS

An organization conducting bingo must have any of three permits: a class A permit is an annual permit that allows games one day each week; a class B permit is a special events permit that allows games over a 10-day period; and a class C permit is an annual permit that allows games one day per month.

BINGO PERMITTEES AND PRIZES

With exceptions, the law limits to \$50 the maximum value of any prize that a bingo permittee may award. One exception allows a permittee to award prizes valued at \$51 to \$200 in one day if the total value does

not exceed \$400. The bill increases the total value of such prizes that may be awarded to \$600 in any day.

Another exception allows a class A permittee to award one special weekly grand prize of up to \$125. If no one wins this prize, the permittee may add the money to the following week's special grand prize for up to 16 weeks or \$2,000. (This is called a progressive jackpot.) The bill allows the permittee to award two such grand prizes. It requires, rather than allows, the money to accumulate when there are no winners.

SEALED TICKETS

Under current law, the Division of Special Revenue (DSR) may issue a sealed ticket permit to a qualified organization that holds a bingo permit, club liquor permit or nonprofit club permit, or bazaar permit. The bill allows DSR to issue annual permits to the organizations to sell sealed tickets at social functions or events that they sponsor. The organization must have been organized for at least two years before applying for the permit. For purposes of the new permit, a qualified organization is a charitable, civic, educational, fraternal, veterans', or religious organization; volunteer fire department; or grange. With minor exceptions, these are the same organizations that qualify for existing permits.

Under current law, the fee for a sealed ticket permit issued to an organization to conduct sealed ticket sales under a (1) class A permit is \$50, (2) class B or bazaar permit is \$5 per day, and (3) nonprofit club or club permit is \$75. The bill sets a \$50 permit fee for permits issued to sell sealed tickets (1) under a class C permit or (2) in conjunction with any social function or event.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 20 Nay 0